

Dear Dr. Koch,

My Superintendent, Dr. Gerald Hill forwarded me a copy of your October 10th Weekly Message. I would like to respond to statements you made in your message and provide you with some additional information.

The tone of your message indicates that you have concerns or issues about the study conducted by the Fordham Institute. You implicate that the Fordham Institute may have an agenda in sponsoring the study. While I can't speak to any agenda that the Fordham Institute may have, I know several of the individuals who conducted the research. They are members of the research department at NWEA and I can assure you they have no agenda to push national standards or assessments.

If you would like more information about the number of Illinois schools or students involved in the study, I believe we can get that information from the researchers who conducted the study. I can tell you that Glenview School District #34 was one of the districts that participated. For your information, 143 districts in the state of Illinois currently use the NWEA assessments.

The study that was recently publicized was actually a follow-up to a study conducted in 2003 to align the ISAT test with NWEA's MAP test. I have attached a copy of the original 2003 study.

If you are interested in additional information about these assessments or the study, I would be happy to help put you in contact with the researchers involved. If I can be of any assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,
Phil Collins

--

Phil Collins
Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement
Glenview School District #34
1401 Greenwood Road
Glenview, IL 60026
(847) 998-5006